TOWN OF WASHINGTON



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FEB 0 3 2010

OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

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Director Paul E Stacey
Bureau of Water Protection & Land Reuse
Planning & Standards Division
Dept. of Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, Ct. 06106-5127

Re: Public Act 05-142

February 1, 2010

Director Stacey:

I am writing to support the implementation of the Proposed Stream Flow Regulations contained in Public Act 05-142. This is a long overdue regulation, which provides for healthy waterways while meeting the needs of the general public.

The Town of Washington serves as an example of the need for a scientific method to provide flow regulation for Connecticut's streams. The towns of Washington and Roxbury in partnership with several nonprofits were forced to engage the City of Waterbury in lengthy and costly litigation to insure a flow in the Shepeaug River adequate to sustain a healthy ecosystem. The existing regulations do nothing to protect our waterways from excessive diversions therefore the only avenue to guarantee the continued health of Connecticut rivers is through the courts. The proposed regulation will not only insure the ability of future generations to enjoy our scenic rivers but allows for use of this resource in a constructive manner that provides sustainable water supplies for all users.

Your agency should be applauded for taking proactive action while outlining a timetable for implementation of flow regulation in a manner such that current users can make corrective measures over a period of time.

Sincerely; Mark E Lyon

First Selectman

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